during the last two years.

(b) While the exports at the Company (SAIL) level are planned and undertaken keeping in view the international market and product requirement in mind, steps taken to improve the general production and productivity of the steel plant include:

i) Change in work culture conducive to higher productivity and quality coupled with strict adherence to technological norms;

ii) Modernisation and technological upgradation of the plant alongwith ensuring adequate availability of inputs of right quality and quantity;

iii) Special drive to increase awareness to reduce energy consumption and improved maintenance of plant and equipment.

(c) Phase-I of modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant is expected to be completed by July, 1993.

The expenditure of Phase-I of RSP modernisation incurred upto July, 1991 is Rs. 196.43 crores.

(d) The number of persons employed lat Rourkela Steel Plant during the past two years are as follows:

	Executives	*Non-executives*	*Total*
1989-90	107	271	378
1990-91	93	701	794
Persons likely to be employed in			
1991-92	50	521	571

The actual recruitment will depend upon the requirement.

The manpower budgeting is done on a yearly basis, where the manpower for different units is worked out. The above recruitment plan of RSP is based on the manpower budget for 1991-92.

Winding up of Post Offices in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh

5013. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for opening of post offices;

(b) Whether some sub-post offices in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh are likely to be wound up; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The norms for opening of Post Offices are given in the Statement attached.

(b) No Post Office in Gunture District of Andhra Pradesh is likely to be wound up.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Norms for Opening of Post Offices: Eefective From 1.4.1991. Branch Post Office:

In normal Rural Areas.

i) Population:-

3000 population in a group of villages.

ii) Distance:

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kmts.

iii) Anticipated income:

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33-1/3% of the cost.

i) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and in accessible Rural Areas;

Population:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

ii) Distance:-

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate.

iii) Anticipated income:-

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

SUB POST OFFICES:

In so far as Urban areas are concerned the norms for opening Post Offices are as follows:-

i) The anticipated income should not be less than the anticipated cost. At the first review, the actual income should be 5% more than the actual cost.

ii) No new post offices should be opened within 2 Kmts. of an existing Post Office (1.5 Kmts. in the cost of metropolitan and other cities with a population of 20 lakh and above.

Irrigation Potential

5014. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the irrigation potential created upto the end of the Sixth Five-Year-Plan;

(b) the target fixed for the creation of additional irrigation potential in the Seventh Five-Year-Plan;

(c) the extent to which this target has been achieved; and

(d) the target fixed for 1991-92 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) 675.3 lakh hectares.

(b) and (c) Against the target of 129.1 lakh hectares for Seventh Five Year Plan, the anticipated achievement is reported to be 122.1 lakh hectares.

(d) 26.23 lakh hectares.

[*Translation*]

Opening of Post Offices and Telegraph Offices in Rural Areas

5015. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: